

HOUSE RESOLUTION 184
By Hood

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Eric Freundt of Middle Tennessee State University on his acceptance for Graduate Studies at Oxford University.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those students who through their natural talents and unflagging commitment to excellence have distinguished themselves in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Eric Freundt of Franklin is one such exceptional student who was recently admitted by prestigious Oxford University to its Oxford/NIH Scholars in Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program; and

WHEREAS, on May 10, 2003, Mr. Freundt graduated from Middle Tennessee State University where he received the President's Award, the highest academic award given by the university to the student who best exemplifies superior character, honor, and academic achievement; and

WHEREAS, a 1998 graduate of Franklin High School, Eric spent a year in the Ukraine on a church mission assisting medical teams in an orphanage before furthering his formal education as one of 800 students in MTSU's Honors College; and

WHEREAS, working with Dr. Stephen Wright, Professor of Biology, Eric has conducted groundbreaking research on ticks that carry enteroviruses and theorized in his Honors thesis that such ticks can transmit an enterovirus that causes viral meningitis; and

WHEREAS, in devising this as yet unpublished theory, Eric has proven his adept skill and original thinking. It is thought that his research will open new pathways into the understanding of the transmission of meningitis; and

WHEREAS, Eric's dedication to scientific research and his academic excellence are the very qualities that helped him to become the first Middle Tennessee State University graduate accepted for study at Oxford University; and

WHEREAS, legendary Oxford University, the oldest English-speaking university in the world, lays claim to eight centuries of continuous existence and annually awards Rhodes Scholarships to the academic elite will now open their doors to a Blue Raider; and

WHEREAS, Eric has been called "a true gentleman...with the intellectual curiosity, the persistence, and the entire package to do very well" at Oxford by no less than Dr. John Paul Montgomery, MTSU Honors College Dean; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Freundt's noteworthy achievement is a tremendous source of pride for his family, his university, and his community; and

WHEREAS, Eric Freundt's dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby commend and honor Eric Freundt upon his admittance to the Oxford/NIH Scholars in Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program at Oxford University and extend to him our best wishes for an enlightening, successful future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.